

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2525

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CGENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

CINCLANT

CINCUSAFE

USCINEUR

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3535

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: DRC MEETING JULY 1, 1975: SPECIALIZATION OF DEFENSE TASKS IN
THE CENTRAL REGION

REFS: A. STATE 148303

B. USNATO 3373

SUMMARY: AT JULY 1 MEETING, THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)
AGREED TO REFER NETHERLANDS PROPOSAL TO DECLASSIFY FINAL REPORT
OF AIR SUB-GROUP ON SPECIALIZATION TO A SMALL SUB-GROUP TO RESOLVE
CONFLICTING NATIONAL POSITIONS AND RECOMMEND ANUNCLASSIFIED TEXT
FOR DRC AND DPC APPROVAL. THE BELGIAN REP (TAYMANS) AND FRG REP
(WELZ) EXPRESSED STRONG OPPOSITION TO DECLASSIFYING THE SUB-GROUP
REPORT. ALL OTHER DELEGATIONS COULD ACCEPT THE NETHERLANDS REQUEST
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SUBJECT TO SOME MODIFICATIONS OF TEXT. THE CHAIRMAN APPOINTED A SMALL
WORKING GROUP MADE UP FROM REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE IS, IMS,

?3)GIUM, FRG, NETHERLANDS, SHAPE AND THE US TO WORK OUT A TEXT FOR

DRC CONSIDERATION. AT MEETING OF SMALL WORKING GROUP THE KL REP WILL
DRAW ON GUIDANROHCO DELETE ANY REFERENCE TO F-15 DEPLOYMENT TO
EUROPE FROM UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF THE AIR SUB-GROUP REPORT.
END SUMMARY

1. AT DEFENSE RDPIEW COMMITTEE (DEC) MEETING JULY 1, 1975, NETHER-
LANDS REP (CARSTEN) JUSTIFIED HIS REQUEST TO DECLASSIFY FINAL REPORT
OF AIR SUB-GROUP BY SAYING THAT THE NETHERLANDS PARLIAMENT IS UN-
HAPPY ABOUT THE LACK OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON AIRFORCE SPECIALIZA-
TION. HE FURTHER STATED THAT PARLIAMENT HAD ASKED MINISTER VREDELING
TO APPROACH NATO FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SPECIALIZATION FOR
CONSIDERATION DURING FURTHER DEBATE ON THE DECISION TO REPLACE
THE F-104 WITH THE F-16. HE SAID THAT THE SUB-GROUP FINAL REPORT
WOULD HELP PACIFY OPPONENTS OF THE F-16 REPLACEMENT DECISION. DRC
CHAIRMAN (BRABAND) RESPONDED THAT HE RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO DEEP
PUBLIC INFORMED, BUT QUESTIONED WHETHER THE AIR SUB-GROUP REPORT
IS THE PROPER DOCUMENT. HE SAID THAT IN ANY CASE IT IS APPROPRIATE
FOR THE DPC TO TAKE THE DECISION, AND THAT DRC RECOMMENDATION SHOULD
BE THE BASIS FOR IT. ALL REPRESENTATIVES EXCEPT THE FRG AND BELGIUM
COULD AGREE TO THE HFTTHERLANDS PROPOSAL AFTER SOME MODIFICATION
OF TEXT.

2. STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE NETHERLANDS PROPOSAL CAME FROM THE FRG
AND BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVES. FRG REP (WELZ) SAID THAT BONN DOES
NOT AGREE WITH THE NETHERLANDS PROPOSAL BECAUSE THE REPORT IS TOO
SPECIFIC ABOUT TASKS AND FORCE DEPLOYMENTS. ?3)&8-, 430 (TAYMANS))
REPORTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF ANY DECLASSIFIED
VERSION OF THE REPORT. HE SAID A DECISION TO DEBATE THE F-16
REPLACEMENT WOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE MEDIA RMVERAGE AND PUBLIC IMPACT.

3. CANADIAN REP (SHEFFIELD) SUPPORTED THE NETHERLANDS PROPOSAL, BUT
SAID THAT CANADA BELIEVED IN A SCREENING BY NATO SECURITY AUTHORI-
TIES PRIOR TO DPC APPROVAL. US REP (DR. LEGERE), WHILE AGREEING
IN PRINCIPLE WITH THE NETHERLANDS REQUEST, CAUTIONED THE DRC ABOUT
EXPECTING SECURITY AUTHORITIES TO MAKE DECISIONS THAT ARE PRIMARILY
POLITICAL-MILITARY.

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4. THE THE NETHERLANDS REP REMINDED THE DRC THAT MINISTERS AT THEIR
MAY 1975 MINISTERIAL MEETING HAD ENCOURAGED A MORE OPEN RELATION-
SHIP WITH THE PUBLIC IN ORDER TO EASE INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TASK
TO JUSTIFYING DEFENSE BUDGETS. HE THEN ASKED THE FRG AND BELGIAN
REPS WHAT THEY FOUND SO SENSITIVE IN THE REPORT. THE FRG REP
CITED PARA 16, AND PARAS 21 THROUGH 38 AS BEING THE MOST SENSITIVE.
THE BELGIAN REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WERE AGAINST PUBLISHING
INFORMATION ABOUT THE STUDY OF FOUR AIR FORCE SPECIALIZATION OPTIONS
BECAUSE THEY WERE CAST IN A SPECIAL FRAMEWORK. HE SAID HIS AUTHORI-
TIES MIGHT AGREE TO RELEASE THE FIRST EIGHT PAGES OF THE REPORT
(I.E., ONLY ENCLOSURE 1).

5. IN SUMMING UP, THE CHAIRMAN CAME BACK TO AN EARLIER PROPOSAL

HE HAD MADE TO SET UP A SMALL WORKING SUB-GROUP TO TRY RESOLVING OP-
POSING POSITIONS AND SYNTHESIZING AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF THE
REPORT THAT THE DRC COULD ACCEPT. THE DRC AGREED TO A SMALL SUB-
GROUP MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE IS, IMS, NETHERLANDS,
SHAPE, FRG, BELGIUM AND THE US. WE WILL DRAW ON GUIDANCE IN REF A
IN THE SUB-GROUP MEETING ON JULY 4 TO DELETE ANY REFERENCE TO THE
F-15 DEPLOYMENT OT EUOPE FROM UNCLASSIFIED VERION OF THE AIR
SUB-GROUP FINAL REPORT.

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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